whether a large number of colleges and universities have never been assessed for quality and standards by the body set up for the purpose;

if so, the reasons therefor; and

the steps taken by Government to ensure that all the colleges and universities get accreditation from NAAC in order to improve the academic standards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) According to information furnished by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), it has accredited 39 colleges and re-accredited 3 universities and 6 colleges during the current financial year.

(b) to (d) Presently, the process of assessment and accreditation of higher educational institutions by NAAC is voluntary. In order to create awareness amongst various stakeholders, including colleges and universities, the NAAC has helped formation of State Level Quality Assurance Coordination Committee in 21 States and has brought out over 175 publications. It also disseminates information through its website, print and electronic media. With a view to cover a large number of institutions the NAAC has adopted a new methodology of assessment and accreditation from April, 2007.

Assistance to Jharkhand under SSA

1744. MS. MABELREBELLO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

how much amount was received by the Jharkhand Government under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and other projects/missions from the Ministry during the last four years, year-wise and project-wise;

the details of money spent out of those funds year-wise, district-wise and project-wise;

how much funds are lying unutilized with the State Government;'and

how much improvement can be seen from utilization of those funds in the field of education, both school and higher education sector and the details thereof, districts-wise, scheme-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALIASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) Details regarding funds released and expenditure incurred by Jharkhand under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Mid-day-meal Scheme and National Literacy Mission during the years 2004-05,2005-06,2006-07 and 2007-08 is given in the Statement *{See* below).

The capacity of Jharkhand for utilization of funds under SSA has shown improvement over the years.

Statement

Amount released and expenditure incurred by Jharkhand under SSA, MDM and National Literacy Mission

(Rs. in lakhs)

SSA	Year	Central Government funds released	Expenditure (including opening balance and State share
	2004-05	16568.5	2925033
	2005-06	'28568.5	37759.9
	200647	51515	6463924
	2007-08	80749.00	83242.44 (as on 11.2.2008)
	2004-05	13317.33	8051.93
MDM	2005-06	13162.89	13002.89
	2006-07	15429.01	8038.33
	2007-08	21350.85	19766.39 (As on 31.12.2007)
National	2004-05	121.14	* Literacy programmes are not
Literacy	2005-06	981.84	implemented on yearly basis. Amount
Mission	2006-07	218.79	utilized and unspent balance is
	2007-08	758.95	calculated on completion of the project.

U.N. grant for SSA

1745. SHRI TARIQANWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

the amount of grant received from United Nations for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan during each of the last four years;

what is the criteria for distribution of those funds to the States;

what amount has been granted to Bihar and Maharashtra under that scheme;

whether State Governments have demanded more funds under this scheme; and

if so, what is the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALIASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) No financial assistance has been received from United Nations for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA).

(c) to (e) The Annual works Plan and Budget of States under SSA are approved by Government of India keeping in view the viable and admissible activities provided for in the framework for implementation of SSA programme e.g. activities to promote access, retention and quality of learning in the elementary education sector.

Details of Central Government funds released to Bihar and Maharashtra during the current year under the SSA upto 06.03.2008 was Rs. 13 54.17 crore and Rs. 457.29 crore respectively.